

He was commissioned by the Los Angeles Olympic Committee to provide paintings for the Games and by the National Basketball Association to commemorate its 50th anniversary. He was also commissioned to provide paintings by the owners of the Los Angeles Lakers, New Orleans Saints, Oakland Raiders, and the Boston Patriots. Carolina Panthers owner Jerry Richardson, a teammate with the Baltimore Colts, commissioned Mr. Barnes to create the painting, "Victory in Overtime," that permanently hangs at the Charlotte football stadium.

Mr. Barnes' ability to capture the powerful energy and movement of sports earned him "America's Best Painter of Sports" by the American Sports Art Museum in 2004.

In 2007, in a New York tribute exhibition sponsored by the National Football League and Time Warner, Time Warner Chairman and CEO Richard D. Parsons said, "Imagine the courage and determination it took for a working class child from the segregated south in the 1940s to ignore all the naysayers and dare dream of becoming a successful artist."

Mr. Barnes's work embodied his strong personal beliefs and spirit, crossing political, racial, and geographic boundaries.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in observing the passing of a great American and one of the Nation's foremost African American artists. We are blessed that Mr. Barnes helped raise our collective consciousness and encouraged everyone to see the gifts and strengths in one another. We mourn his loss, celebrate his achievements, and send our deepest condolences to his family.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF DEPUTY BURTON LOPEZ, OKALOOSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

#### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Deputy Burton Lopez, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department, who gave his life in the line of duty on April 25, 2009. Deputy Lopez served the Okaloosa Sheriff's Department with honor and distinction, and I am humbled to recognize this American hero.

Deputy Burton "Burt" Lopez began his career in the United States Air Force, proudly serving for over twenty years before retiring as a sergeant. His career took him across the world, including Northwest Florida's own Eglin Air Force base. He joined the Okaloosa Sheriff's Department shortly after his retirement, fulfilling a lifelong dream of becoming a police officer. His fellow officers knew him as a dedicated public servant and a true family man who loved serving his community.

Deputy Lopez was killed when he and another patrol deputy went to apprehend a suspect during a domestic violence dispute. The gunman fired at the officers, fatally wounding Deputy Lopez and a fellow officer. These two deaths mark only the second and third Okaloosa Sheriff's deputies to ever be killed in the line of duty, a truly sad, but powerful testament to the quality of the entire Sheriff's Department.

The people of Okaloosa County have many reasons to be proud of Deputy Lopez, and I am honored to be able to represent those people, as well as the memory of this brave police officer. Vicki and I will keep his entire family, especially his wife, Michelle, and children, Jesse, Erik, Madilyn, Jami, and Jake, and grandson, Caleb, in our prayers. May God Bless Deputy Lopez and all of the officers across this great country who courageously protect their citizens and their communities.

#### FAST STARTS ACT OF 2009

#### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I began work on the Portland Streetcar as a Commissioner of the City of Portland. Our first line opened on July 20, 2001, becoming the first modern streetcar system in North America. It represents a remarkable local partnership. I'm proud of its success.

As a Member of Congress, I have championed streetcars at the federal level, introducing the Community Streetcar Development and Revitalization Act in 2003, which became part of the Small Starts program and was included in SAFETEA-LU.

Unfortunately, the implementation of the Small Starts program failed to deliver any form of federal partnership to our communities. Communities across the country have struggled to utilize the Small Starts program as the Federal Transit Administration delayed these projects. These delays have caused steep cost increases and stalled worthy projects that otherwise would generate investment and development in these communities.

The Fast Starts Act responds to the vast pent-up demand in communities around the country caused by the prior administration's obstruction and delay with regard to streetcar projects. It authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to streetcar projects provided that they are supported by an acceptable degree of local financial commitment, have met all necessary environmental requirements, and can be under construction not later than March 1, 2012.

These bills will revitalize America's neighborhoods and urban spaces, while providing transit options, reducing sprawl, and curtailing greenhouse gas emissions. I am looking forward to seeing a resurgence of streetcars around the country and nowhere more so than in Portland, Oregon.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING JORDAN STRICKLAND FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

#### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jordan Strickland showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Jordan Strickland was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Jordan Strickland always displayed sportsmanship on and off the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jordan Strickland on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: HENRY E. BROWN, Jr.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education—National Projects, Innovation and Improvement

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Reading is Fundamental

Address of Requesting Entity: 1825 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20009

Description of Request: Funding will be used for purposes authorized in Section 5451 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Reading Is Fundamental enhances child literacy by providing millions of underserved children with free books for personal ownership and reading encouragement from the more than 18,000 locations throughout all fifty states, Washington, D.C., Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Requesting Member: HENRY E. BROWN, Jr.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education—National Projects, Innovation and Improvement

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Reach Out and Read National Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 56 Roland Street, Boston, MA 02129

Description of Request: Reach Out and Read is a national program that promotes literacy and language development in infants and young children, targeting disadvantage and poor children and families. ROR has proven to among the most effective strategies to promote early language and literacy development and school readiness: pediatricians and other healthcare providers guide and encourage parents to read aloud to their children from their earliest years of their life, and send them home from each doctor visit with books and a prescription to read together. Currently, nearly 50,000 doctors and nurses have been trained in ROR's proven strategies, and more than 3,500 clinics and hospitals nationwide are implementing the program, reaching more than 25% of America's at-risk-children. Funding provided by Congress through the U.S. Department of Education has been matched by tens of millions of dollars from the private sector and state governments. Program has benefited over 18,000 children in the First District.

## HONORING BOY SCOUT TROOP 72

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Boy Scout Troop 72 on achieving an important milestone, its 75th anniversary. Originally chartered on April 16, 1934, Troop 72 has turned hundreds of young men into community leaders, fulfilling the Boy Scouts of America mission to build character in young men and train them to become responsible citizens engaged in physical fitness and community development activities.

Troop 72 is in the Washington District of the Cradle of Liberty Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The chartering organization, the Roychester Community House in the Overlook Hills neighborhood of Abington Township, has provided a home for the young men of Troop 72 for many years.

Since its inception, 175 boys from the Troop have attained the coveted Eagle Scout designation, Scouting's highest award. Each project that has propelled these young men toward the achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout has had an incredible impact on the betterment of the community. While successfully fulfilling the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to train young men to become responsible, engaged citizens, Troop 72 has also successfully established strong ties to its town. Troop 72's annual food drive collects thousands of canned goods each year.

The Troop's active and committed adult leadership implement outreach, advocacy and fundraising activities to strengthen the Troop's enduring presence and serve as positive role models for these young men. Over the past 75 years, Troop 72 has served as a powerful catalyst, encouraging young men to make ethical and moral decisions and shaping them into productive, engaged citizens. I am honored to represent this organization's leadership and members in Congress.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 75th anniversary milestone of Boy Scout Troop 72 and wishing the Troop and its members many more years of community enrichment and service.

CONGRATULATING MR. ADAM MILLIKIN, JR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Adam Millikin, Jr. on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

Mr. Millikin was born on May, 12, 1909 in East Carroll Parish, and is currently a proud resident of Lake Providence, La. In addition, Mr. Millikin and his late beloved wife were the proud parents of 10 children.

Truly an integral part of Louisiana history, Mr. Millikin's fascination with politics has deep roots. He was just one of four males who first obtained the right to vote in East Carroll Parish.

A retired farmer, Mr. Millikin serves today as a deacon of the Rose Hill Baptist Church. He has served in this capacity for 58 years.

In addition, his hobbies include watching his favorite baseball team, Los Angeles Dodgers, and following the news.

Mr. Millikin is a friend to many, and is deemed a gracious and hardworking person to all who have had the privilege of making his acquaintance.

Friends and family of Mr. Millikin will gather on May 24, 2009 to celebrate this momentous birthday.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Adam Millikin, Jr. a very happy 100th birthday.

IN HONOR OF ROBLEY REX

**HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robley Rex, an American Hero from my home town of Louisville, KY, who peacefully passed away just days away from his 108th birthday. Mr. Rex always disputed the fact that he was a hero. He said he was only doing his duty, but to the people of Kentucky, we simply can't see it any other way.

The area's last surviving World War I era veteran served with the Army in Europe at the end of the Great War. He remained with the Army for four years, but he retained a commitment to serve for the rest of his life. He served as chaplain of the Okolona VFW until his death and logged more than 13 thousand volunteer hours at the Louisville VA hospital—since his 85th birthday.

Still, what made Mr. Rex special to us isn't the quantity of hours or years—though there were many of both—but the quality of his time. The veterans who had the good fortune to spend some time with him, during his many visits to the VA Hospital, spoke with a man who not only shared their experience but also helped blaze the trail for their service. For those brave men and women who served their country and received treatment for illness or injury, the ubiquitous smile of Robley Rex made a world of difference when working toward recovery. He tried to cheer them up, he'd say. And if you ask anyone he encountered, you'll hear that he succeeded.

Today, it's difficult to imagine a time when America was not yet the most powerful nation in the world, when the military might of United States was in question. Robley Rex served at a time when our states had been reunited for little over five decades and the road ahead lay in question. It was on the will, courage, and determination of soldiers like Robley Rex that the future of the United States was secured. Whether he admitted it or not, Madam Speaker, he was a treasure to our community, a true American Hero, and he will not be forgotten.

I am humbled by his life's service, thankful for all he did, and I know my colleagues will join me in honoring the life and legacy of Robley Rex.

TRIBUTE TO MR. D. M. (DENNY) SAMUEL

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to Mr. D. M. Samuel on his retirement with 42 years of service with Chevron Corporation of California.

Denny joined Chevron in 1967 and moved extensively throughout North America in the marketing department. As sales manager in Puerto Rico, and marketing manager in Canada, he was successful in notable advancements in Chevron's return to stockholder investment. He has been Chevron's legislative advocate in Florida, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California.

Most recently, Denny has served as chief advocate for the company in Sacramento, serving as Chevron's lead with the California State Legislature and several governorships for more than 20 years. In this capacity, he has been a true leader within the business lobbying community. He has served on the Government Affairs Committee of the California Manufacturers and Technology Association, and is the outgoing chairman of the Western States Petroleum Association's California Petroleum Resource Group. Denny has been honored by both parties recently, as the top business lobbyist in the State; by the Latino Caucus with a Lifetime Achievement Award; and by many peers and leaders in Sacramento and an honest and hard working advocate on behalf of California's largest company, Chevron.

Denny is a solid citizen. He has served on the boards of many community and industry organizations including the Sacramento Child Abuse Prevention Council and served as chairman of the River Oaks Center for Children. He is known for his compassion and willingness to help others.

Samuel graduated from the University of Washington, did post graduate studies at Golden Gate University, and received his master's in business administration (MBA) from Pepperdine University.

Samuel enjoys golf and fishing and resides with his wife and mother of four, Fran, in Loomis, CA.

I congratulate Denny on his retirement and thank him for his diligent service to the energy industry, particularly in the great State of California.

CONGRATULATING EVERETTE BROWN ON BEING DRAFTED BY THE CAROLINA PANTHERS

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate and recognize a young man from my hometown who was selected in last weekend's National Football League draft. The Carolina Panthers selected Everette Brown, a graduate of Wilson, North Carolina's Beddingfield High School and Florida State University.